GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5631
ANSWERED ON:30.08.2001
FISHING ACTIVITIES
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether in coastal areas the fishing activity is very active and continuous throughout the year;

(b) if so, whether fishing community in costal areas carry on drying activities without any scientific and low cost technology;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) whether the Government have identified any low cost technology for drying fish;

(e) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(f) whether the Government propose to develop a low cost technology for drying fish in consultation with veterinity centres, Agricultural University and fishery cooperatives;

(g) if so, the details thereof; and

(h) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN)

(a): Fishing activity is very active and continuous throughout the year in costal areas except during the monsoon ban specified from region to region.

(b) &(c): The uneconomic varieties of fish are conventionally dried on the beach treating them with common salt.

(d) to (g): Methodologies for improved hygienic drying of fish have been evolved by organisations like Integrated Fisheries Project (IFP) under the Ministry of Agriculture, the Central Institute of Fisheries Technology (CIFT) under the Indian Council of Agricultural Research as well as the Bay of Bengal Programme (BOBP) of Food and Agricultural Organisation and demonstrated to fishermen. These include both wet and dry salt curing methods and sun drying techniques using raised platforms, drying racks, webbings and various hanging methods. Use of preservation techniques to enhance shelf life of the dried products has been standardised. Packaging techniques like heat sealing in poly pouches has also been introduced in commercial scale by IFP.

(h): Question does not arise.